Terrorists attack and security arrangements on railway stations

*271. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the number of people killed and injured at CST railway station in Mumbai during the recent terrorist attack;

(b) whether a bomb blast took place in Tinsukia train at Difu station on 2nd December, 2008;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether railway stations and trains are not fully safe and security arrangements there are not satisfactory; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the concrete measures Government proposes to take to make Railways' security foolproof along with the earlier measures taken and fresh initiatives taken after these terrorist attacks?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) 56 persons were killed and 98 persons injured in the incident of terrorist attack at Chattarpati Shivaji Terminus Railway Station / Mumbai on 26.11.2008. Out of 56 persons killed, 48 are identified which included 05 Railway employees and 2 foreigners. 8 persons could not be identified as yet. Out of 98 persons injured, 45 sustained grievous injuries and admitted in various hospitals nearby for treatment, whereas 53 sustained simple injuries, out of which, 02 persons were admitted in J.J. Hospital and Bombay Hospital/ Mumbai for treatment.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. On 02.12.2008 at about 0755 hrs., an explosion took place in General coach No. NF-8209 of train No. 901 Lumding - Tinsukia passenger while it was standing on platform No. 2 of Diphu Railway Station (Lumding Division of Northeast Frontier Railway). As a result, 2 passengers including one minor boy died and 32 others sustained injuries.

In this connection, Government Railway Police / Lumding has registered a case *vide* Case Crime no. 4/2008 under section 120(B), 121,121(A) 302, 336, 338, 427 IPC read with section 3 & 4 Explosive Substance Act and Section 10 & 13 Unlawful Arms (Possession) Act and section 151 the Railways Act against unknown persons.

(d) The Railway Stations and trains are safe to the large extant except a few incidents of terrorist / militant attacks, which depend on the local law and order condition. The security arrangements made by Government Railway Police of different States and by Railways are by and large satisfactory as per sanctioned strength and equipments available with Government Railway Police and RPF.

(e) The concrete measures taken and proposes to take after the terrorist attacks are given as under:-

Although the Policing on Railways is the duty of State Police through Government Railway Police, however, to provide better security to the traveling passengers in trains and passenger areas, the RPF Act, 1957 and the Railways Act, 1989 have been amended in the year 2003 to enable the Railways, through the Railway Protection Force, to effectively supplement the efforts of the State

Governments in controlling crime on the Railways and to ensure that the State Police (Government Railway Police) get more time to handle heinous offences such Murder, Dacoity, Robbery, Rape etc. including Sabotage and Train Wrecking, under the provisions of Indian Penal Code, the Railways Act and other Raws of the land.

After the amendment in RPF Act and Railway Act, 1257 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average by deploying 3904 RPF personnel. In addition, 2329 trains are escorted by Government Railway Police by deploying 4560 personnel daily. 710 important Railway stations have been provided with 3898 RPF staff for access control duty.

After the terrorist attack in Mumbai, in addition to beefing up the existing security arrangements in Indian Railways. Armed RPF personnel have been deployed along with the provision of morcha / bunkers at important stations in-Mumbai. Additional RPSF personnel have been deployed at Mumbai and Delhi Railway stations. Staff has been put on alert to prevent such incidents. Government Railway Police and State Police have also been asked to strengthen the security arrangements at Railway stations and in trains.

- 96 important Railway Stations and 96 trains have been identified and deployment of RPF personnel for access control and escorting in trains has been augmented.
- 140 vulnerable / sensitive Railway stations have been approved for implementation of Integrated Security System under Outright Purchase Model.
- All the Railway stations of four Metro Cities *i.e.* Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai will be covered under Integrated Security System.
- X-Ray luggage scanning machines are installed at Delhi and Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus Railway station Mumbai and process for procurement of more such machines is under process.
- Electronics gadgets like CCTV, Door Frame Metal Detectors etc. have been installed at all important and sensitive Railway Stations. Hand Held Metal Detectors have also been provided to RPF personnel for frisking of passengers. Procurement of more modern security gadgets for installation at important Railway Stations are being done on priority.
- Upgradation of weaponry is under process and demand for sophisticated weapons has been placed.
- 3 additional Battalions of RPSF will be raised.
- 2 RPSF Battalions will be given Commando Training and deployment of trained staff will be made at strategic locations.
- On the recommendation of Norms Committee, which had been formed for fixing scales for procurement of modern security related equipments, Railway Board has allocated Rs. 60.76 crores for procurement of security equipment to be used by RPF.
- A Committee comprising officers from Railways, RPF, IB, CISF, Delhi Police and NSG was constituted by the Railway Board to formulate a Composite Security Plan for the Railways. The

report submitted by the committee has been approved and is being implemented to strengthen security system of Railways.

- Adequate fund will be made available under the head security for modernization and other expenditure in the Railways.
- Sniffer dogs where available are utilized to check explosive devices at important stations and trains.
- The amendment in Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act 1966 has been proposed to control crime more effectively on the Railways.
- Intensive publicity and public awareness campaigns alerting and educating passengers / public to remain vigilant against any unidentified / unclaimed suspicious objects lying and to inform RPF, Government Railway Police / Railway Officials available nearby about such objects.
- Close co-ordination with GRP, State Police and State and Central Intelligence agencies for regular exchange of intelligence information.

Oil pilferage from trains

*272.SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantity of petrol / diesel is being pilfered from trains during their transit with the collusion of employees of petroleum companies and the Railways,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases of oil pilferage reported during the last year and the current year; and

(d) the action taken by Government against those employees found involved in oil pilferage or caught red-handed in each of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (c) Some cases of pilferage of oil from trains are reported. During the year 2007, total 17 cases of theft/pliferage of petroleum products involving loss of property valued Rs. 21,49,422/- were reported from trains during transit, inwhich property worth Rs. 3,16,815/- was recovered with arrest of 40 persons including 4 Railway employees. Cases were reported from Western Railway - 7 N.F. Railway 4, Eastern Railway – 1, Northern Railway - 1, E.C. Railway – 1 and S.W. Railway – 3. During the year 2008 (Upto November), 23 cases of theft/pilferage of petroleum products involving loss of property valued Rs. 2,10,82,327/- were reported from trains during transit, in which property worth Rs. 15,89,563/- were recovered with arrest of 25 persons. Cases reported from N.F. Railway – 8, Western Railway – 5, Eastern Railway – 3, E.C. Railway – 5, Northern Railway – 1 and N.E. Railway – 1. No. Petroleum Company employees was found involved in cases of theft/pilferage oil from wagons during transit. However, 4 Railway employees were found involved in pilferage of oil during the year 2007 over Western Railway. Out of 23 cases of theft/pilferage of oil reported during the year 2008, 08 cases involving loss of property valued Rs. 1,44,88,306/- were reported in N.F. Railway. The miscreants, reported to be affiliated to DHD and NSCN militant groups (Dima Halam